WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for a server that manages bandwidth of a remote link, comprising:

    assigning a portion of the bandwidth to at least one application group; and

    metering packets belonging to the application group.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the server is a VPN server.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the server is directly connected to other links having larger bandwidth than the available bandwidth of the remote link.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the packets belonging to the application group share a pre-defined configuration.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the packets belonging to the application group contend equally for the portion of the bandwidth.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein metering the packets group further includes metering flow rate of the packets going through the server in either direction.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein metering the packets further includes rejecting the packets if the flow rate exceeds the portion of the assigned bandwidth.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising allowing a user to specify the bandwidth of the remote link from a user interface.

9. The method of claim 1 further comprising allowing a user to specify the portion of the assigned bandwidth from a user interface.

10. A system for managing bandwidth of a remote link comprising:

    a server

    a contention pool having a portion of the bandwidth for at least one application group;

    and

a meter for metering the packets belonging to the application group.

11. The system of claim 10 wherein the server is a VPN server.

12. The system of claim 10 wherein the server is directly connected to other links having larger bandwidth than the available bandwidth of the remote link.

13. The system of claim 10 wherein the packets belonging to the application group share a pre-defined configuration.

14. The system of claim 10 wherein the packets belonging to the application group contend equally for the contention pool.

15. The system of claim 10 wherein the meter further meters flow rate of the packets going through the server in either direction.

16. The system of claim 15 wherein the meter further rejects the packets if the flow rate exceeds the assigned portion of the bandwidth.

17. The system of claim 10 further comprising a user interface that allows a user to specify the bandwidth of the link.

18. The system of claim 10 further comprising a user interface that allows a user to specify the assigned portion of the bandwidth.